



Campus activists protest Ferguson decision

By OLIVIA AINSWORTH
News Staff

On the night of Nov. 24, students gathered in the Pugh Center to watch a broadcast of St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Robert McCullough announcing the grand jury decision to not indict Ferguson Officer Darren Wilson for the death of unarmed 18 year-old Michael Brown. Many students were stunned and outraged by the verdict, and quickly planned a campus-wide event in protest.

Activists came together to spread the word about the protest. Groups like the Colby Bridge, the Oak Institute for Human Rights, Amnesty International, and Colby Democrats sent email announcements to their members; Claudia Aviles '15 sent a school-wide "Official Notice," and Students Organized for Black and Hispanic Unity (SOBHU) sent out invitations to a Facebook event.

The next day, on Nov. 25 at 11:51, Colby students, faculty, and staff joined in Pulver and s held their hands up in silence for 10 minutes to show their solidarity with Brown's family and his supporters in Ferguson, Missouri.

Wilson shot Brown this past August, which prompted weeks of protests in Ferguson. After waiting months for the grand jury

decision, many are disappointed and angry with the choice to free Wilson from all charges.

Alexis Atkinson '15 described her reactions from several SOBHU members: "Many of us watching slowly began to disperse in and around the Pugh Center, and that's when certain troubling conversations began. SOBHU members, particularly our black members, started saying things like, 'The funny thing is, I don't feel anything because I am not surprised, no one cares about us.' The saddest thing is, I can't do anything. There is nothing I can do. 'I'm so afraid because I have a brother/cousin/friend who could have that happen to them.'"

In response to the grand jury decision, Atkinson decided to stand in protest even if that meant doing so alone. After telling other members of SOBHU of her decision, they all sprung into action. By 10:45pm that night, only an hour and a half after the decision was announced, members of SOBHU had spread the word to almost the entire campus.

President of SOBHU Tionna Haynes '15 said, "It took me 30 seconds to process what she said and respond 'Alexis, I'm with you!'"

Though the protest announcement was made only 12 hours before the protest itself and though many students had already left for Thanksgiving



break, over 50 students and many faculty and staff members joined SOBHU in solidarity. Music and poetry expressing how the protestors felt played while they stood in silence with their hands up.

Atkinson, after the protest, reflected, "And that was all it took. One person to say they want to do something and another to be in agreement. That is what really touched me about the whole demonstration process. So often as a student I've heard that no

real change can happen at Colby, but all it took was one student saying that something needed to be done and another to agree for the ball to start rolling."

Local CW News covered the event and interviewed Haynes. This coverage brought the protest to the larger community outside Colby, which was one of the goals of the protest.

Members of the Colby community were inspired by the support they saw for Michael Brown and his family. Haynes

stated, "Of course people could have been there for different reasons with varying degrees of connections to Mike Brown and the underlying issues concerning Ferguson, but in that moment, seeing my fellow Mules stand with me about something that is important to me made me feel strongly connected to this community."

Days after charges were dropped, Officer Wilson handed in his letter of resignation from the Ferguson police.

Library forum compares Miller data to that of other colleges

By MEGAN LASHER
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&
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To continue the open discourse surrounding the Miller Library renovations, the Library Committee hosted a forum on Tues., Nov. 18. According to a campus-wide email announcement from Professor of History John Turner, the purpose of this event was "to present what [the Committee had] found out so far and to invite discussion."

This conversation was the second open forum on the Library, following an event earlier this semester in which the Committee addressed opinions on what Phase III of the renovations should entail. Both events led to tense discussion, as passionate faculty, students, staff and administrators questioned the process of the first two renovation phases and requested a re-evaluation of the library's progress.

In this forum, the Committee wanted to bring more facts and statistics into the discussion, so it presented a multitude of data evaluating the College's place among other highly-ranked liberal arts colleges. The committee examined nine other schools: Williams, Amherst, Swarthmore, Wellesley, Bowdoin, Middlebury, Carleton, Haverford, and Davidson to see how Colby's library system com-

pared to other institutions in terms of budget, staffing, circulation, storage and other categories.

Turner began by reminding the group that "[his] voice carries no more weight than students' [voices]" and reiterating that the purpose of the conversation was to "talk about what the numbers mean, find ways for Colby to go forward [...] and discuss what [the College] hopes to accomplish in the end."

One of the largest points of discussion was the circulation. According to the figures presented by the Committee, in the past 11 years, Colby's circulation of books has gone from 39,857 to 24,305; nearly a 39 percent decrease. "It's a downward trajectory...it has nothing to do with where the books are, and that's something we need to talk about," Turner said. Directory of Colby Libraries Clem Guthro said that "the circulation policy has not changed," but he and Turner also clarified that not every book is tracked unless it been checked out. "It's really hard to track that," Turner said. "We don't know what people are doing in the stacks, and it'd be creepy to follow them around."

In comparison to similar colleges, Colby falls far below the average book circulation in the 2013-14 data. The other nine schools had an average of about 54,000 books circulated, compared to Colby's 24,305. Colby also falls on the lower side for E-Journal Use (Colby's figure is

116,887 compared to the average of 225,400) and Database Use (289,122 compared to 748,500.)

Many attendees refuted the emphasis on this data, claiming that it is hard to determine how many databases and books have actually been used, and therefore the statistical analysis methods could be flawed. Lucy Hadley '16

like browsing than it is like taking a book out?"

The analysis of library hours, seating, and gate count was also a pivotal point in the forum. Turner stated the predicament that the Committee has faced: "We have a very limited space and that involves a choice [between] stack space and study space," he said. In comparing these two options, the Committee once again used statistical data. Colby has 308,178 books in campus libraries (including Bixler and Olin Libraries), which is significantly less than the average of 580,000 books in the other libraries from the data packet. Colby also has more than three times as many off-campus books than any of the nine other schools in comparison, with nearly 210,000 in storage (see graph.)

In terms of study space, Colby has the most seating of any school listed, with 1,158 seats after the renovations, just above Wellesley's 1,166 seats. Students in the forum mentioned their overall approval of the increased seating. "Students go to library to study because they're sure they'll find a seat," Holly Hogan '17 said.

The Committee pointed out that Colby has the closest storage facility, as our location is technically on-campus. Guthro added that he plans to increase the frequency of retrieval from storage so that there will be three trips a day, seven days a week. Currently, there are three trips every week-

day and one on Sunday.

Regarding library space, the Committee also discussed reference desks. Every college in the data comparison had either a separate reference desk or a combined reference and circulation desk. Colby, however, only has a circulation desk, which refers students to reference offices.

Professor of English David Suchoff pointed out that Colby used to have a reference desk, only to be cut off by Turner, who urged the forum attendees to focus on the future instead of looking at the library's history. "I oppose your position that we shouldn't be concerned about what happens in the past," Professor of Classics Joseph Roisman said. "Yes, I'm a historian too," Turner replied.

Turner said that, "at this point, [a reference desk is] not a feasible option," estimating that the library would need at least ten new full-time staff members in order to run the desk. "That's not the purview of the library committee," Guthro said. However, John J. and Cornelia V. Gibson Professor of History Elizabeth Leonard asserted its necessity: "I would say a reference desk is absolutely part of the future," she said.

The forum also discussed outreach, as Colby is an outlier in terms of not having a systematic

In comparison to similar colleges, Colby falls far below the average book circulation in the 2013-14 data.

mentioned that there is a large discrepancy between print and online circulation: "When you've checked out a book, you've already made a decision, but when you download journals, you do it more mindlessly: less thought goes into if you'll actually use that journal," she said. Associate Professor of English Elizabeth Sager echoed this statement, asking, "So isn't downloading more

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Concern arises over professors' conversation with student Library Committee members

By SAM LEBLANC
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The prior to the second library forum, two professors took three students whom they believed to be on the Library Committee to lunch at the Joseph Family Spa. After leaving the meeting, one of the students reported the conversation to her work supervisors in Miller Library and to the Library Committee on which she is a student representative, stating that the conversation was meant to be a dialogue but felt like coercion.

The two professors, Professor of English David Suchoff and Professor of Latin American Studies Ben Fallaw, stated in a joint email that they "met the SGA designated [representatives on the Library Committee] in the Spa over lunch, and it was a very amicable conversation. We were able to find out a lot about how students think about the library, and we were able to answer questions about how we view the library, and share information. For us, the 'impact' of the meeting was a better understanding of students' perspectives; and this was very valuable."

Further, the professors wrote, "We imagine that meetings between designated SGA reps and faculty interested in the same issues are quite frequent, and desirable; of course, they should be at a civically engaged campus such as Colby."

Holly Hogan '16 reported the conversation she and the two other students had with the professors and explained that though she and the other students were invited to the meeting under the premise of the professors looking for student perspectives on the library, she felt that the professors were attempting to convince the students of the professors' views. When she arrived at the meeting, Suchoff and Fallaw were wearing "Bring Back the Books" pins. Hogan explained that if she had known the professors were participants in the Bring Back the Books campaign, "I wouldn't have gone because I know there are a lot of issues and I'm also a worker for the library... so it's very tough to be in that position," Hogan explained.

"At first, they kind of asked us a little bit about what we thought of the library," Hogan said. As the lunch continued however, Hogan felt that the professors were overwhelming her and the other students with information that the students didn't have the resources to respond to: "They were giving us a lot of statistics. I can only say my opinion and what I know from being on the committee. And they talked about the importance of

students on the committee and how impactful their beliefs can be, and then they really started pushing their beliefs onto us."

Hogan felt that she not only had to defend her beliefs regarding the library but also regarding the quality of education at Colby. She said, "I felt like I had to do a lot of the fighting for Miller, saying Miller is a good place and so is Colby, like let's keep our Colby pride. When I walked away from the conversation I felt like they were saying Colby is a horrible place to go."

The other two students at the meeting interpreted the conversation differently. Liz Paulino '18 is a member of the Library Committee and said, "Personally, I didn't think it was that bad.... They were really respectful....[and] brought up some valid points." Paulino explained, "I didn't agree with some of the points, [but] it wasn't the end of the world. It was [more] like, you have your opinion, I have my opinion." Regarding her ability to speak her mind, Paulino said that "I couldn't articulate all that I thought, but that was because of nervousness, not because I was being attacked or anything."

The third student who was invited to the discussion was originally meant to be on the Library Committee, but due to scheduling conflicts, was unable to continue participating. The professors said that they found all three names, including Jenner Foster's '17, on the provost's website, which lists the members of all College committees. Foster said, "I think [the professors] were really trying to convince a little bit of their side... or wanted us to hear the faculty side.... I [also] think they were trying to hear what our thoughts were.... Liz and I stayed afterwards and talked about it, and we didn't think there was any malicious intent, it was that crazy, or that radical." Foster believes that the professors wanted to meet with them "because they wanted to hear a different perspective of the student body's voice."

As Head of the Library Committee, Associate Professor of History John Turner received Hogan's email regarding the luncheon and passed along the information to Provost and Dean of Faculty Lori Kletzer who then brought the information to the attention of President David Greene. Turner said, "It does look on the surface like an attempt to subvert student voices.... Just looking at the basics, it doesn't look good."

Turner's main concern is to protect students' ability to voice their opinions: "I view it as very important to me to protect stu-

dents' voices and the freedom of students to say what they need to say. I feel very defensive about that." He said that in general, it's important to him that "students feel like their voices are going to be heard."

Student Body President Justin Decker '15 became aware of the interaction between Suchoff and Fallaw and the students when Turner brought it to his attention, and Decker found the incident troubling. In an email to the Echo, he described the importance of student representation on committees, saying that "Students can have a powerful contribution in representing and carrying the opinion of their peers on a variety of issues. I believe that the actions of Professors Fallaw and Suchoff are extremely problematic because they have acted in a way that has perverted our college's governance process. I believe it is unethical for the professors to act in a way where they are attempting to coerce student opinion through this channel." He further explained that he doesn't believe

the professors took the proper route if they were simply intending to understand student opinion: "If they were truly interested in garnering student opinion of the library renovation, their discussion should have begun with the SGA president, not three underclassmen who serve on the library committee. It is clear to me that they were more interested in coercing the students who serve on the library committee to carry their opinions."

In an email, Fallaw and Suchoff responded to a question regarding whether they believe their positions as tenured professors play a role in influencing student voices. They wrote, "At Colby, faculty influence students—and just as importantly, are influenced by them in our learning community. We believe students are equal partners in this common venture. We learned a lot from the students at this lunch, and perhaps they learned from us. Creating a library that everyone in the Colby community can be proud of will require more such conversations,

not fewer, among faculty, students and administrators. Let a thousand conversations bloom."

Kletzer said, "I was appraised of the situation by Professor Turner and I similarly apprized President Greene. There is not an investigation." She asserted that there is no formal or informal investigation but said "I will admit that I found the descriptions of the meeting troubling. At the same time, it is a difficult area to pursue because it becomes 'someone said this' and 'possibly someone else said that.' It's a difficult conversation for anyone outside the group [of two professors and three students] to pursue."

Kletzer expanded that though there is currently no investigation, "it is still to me an open question. Might I return to this? Yes. If I received directly any complaints or if I heard any additional information beyond what I have received to date beyond John Turner, I'm fairly certain I would pursue it. To me, it remains an open issue, not closed."

Library Committee hosts open forum

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program of library instruction. "A lot of the work librarians do now is outreach...where we're meeting one on one with faculty or students," Circulation Supervisor Eileen Richards said. "The librarians need to be in the classrooms." "We need more staff. We really need to make that emphatic...we don't want to be an outlier in not having that information literacy," Sagaser added.

Library Committee members brought the conversation back to the idea that the College has limited resources. "We need to look at how much space we don't have," Turner said. Guthro added

that in the 1980s, "we wanted to be able to accommodate 15 years of growth. Now it's been 30 years, and we are still in the same space."

"Keep our eyes forward...we're here now," Leonard said. "This is the moment when we need to figure out what we want...we've been told to dream big. We need to figure out what we want and need, and make a case for it," she told the forum.

"Where do we philosophically want to put ourselves?" Turner asked the crowd. "What is the best library that we can have? What are the best education opportunities we can give to our students?"

Dr. Frank and Theodora Miesel Professor of Chemistry Whitney King turned the focus away from the statistical analysis that

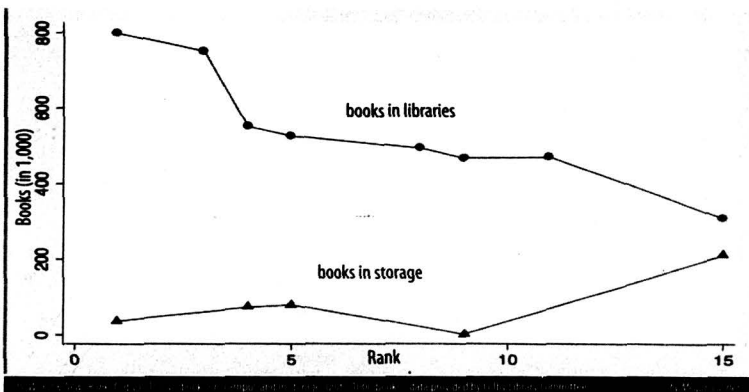
the Committee presented. "None of these [figures] tell us how well we're educating students," he said.

"The hard question is, really, are we doing a good job of educating our students? What strategies [can] we take to produce the best possible outcomes for our students? That's where the resources need to go," King asked.

"My question is about time," Turner said. He mentioned that the next open forum could revolve around the idea of how much students are using Miller Library, and whether or not the new study space has been beneficial.

"This is not the last conversation, this is not a formal report... this is the beginning of the conversation," Turner said. "The library committee has decided nothing."

College rank versus resources for top 15 liberal arts schools



Security Incident Report Log

Date:	Time:
11/15/14	2:34 a.m.
11/15/14	8:28 a.m.
11/15/14	10:45 p.m.
11/16/14	1:24 a.m.
11/17/14	7:35 a.m.
11/18/14	11:36 p.m.
11/21/14	8:01 p.m.
11/21/14	11:37 p.m.
11/22/14	8:49 p.m.
11/23/14	12:05 a.m.
11/23/14	1:54 a.m.
11/23/14	8:57 a.m.
11/23/14	1:08 p.m.
11/23/14	2:01 p.m.

Network:
Drug/Safety Violation
Medical Call
Medical Call
Medical Call
Theft
Safety/Drug Violation
Alcohol Violation
Medical Call
Trespassing
Medical Call
Vandalism
Vandalism
Vandalism
Chemical Spill

Location:
Williams Hall
Dana Hall
Cotter Union
Cotter Union
Alford Apartments
Dana Hall
Cotter Union, Pub
Sturtevant Hall
Athletic Center
Taylor Hall
The Heights
Johnson Pond Lot
Hillside Lot
Olin Science

Comments:
Paraphernalia, smoking in room
Illness
Injury
Alcohol
Items taken from coat pocket
Fire alarm, smoking marijuana
False ID
Alcohol
Drunk and disorderly
Alcohol
Front door glass broken
Scratches on door
Broken back window
Small amount of mercury spilled

Business as usual

By JAKE LESTER
News Staff

Whether you are looking for a place to live, a restaurant to eat and drink at or a gym to work off that extra beer weight, entrepreneur Charlie Giguere operates a business for you.

Giguere has managed, owned and operated businesses in Waterville and all around southern Maine including supermarkets, restaurants, bars and a gym. He grew up in a family of businesspeople who are tied heavily to the Waterville area. These familial ties have brought him closer to the people he serves and has pulled into his home community.

Giguere grew up just a few blocks from downtown Waterville in an apartment on School Street. His extended family has owned and operated a myriad of different businesses in and around town. Lionel Giguere, Charlie's father, owned a supermarket in town and organized a co-op of grocers across the state.

Giguere interacted with many people as a kid, especially patrons of his father's supermarket. Giguere's family also invested in real estate, giving him not only a strong business sense, but also a knack for hospitality. He said he got to know everyone in town as he became a part of the community.

Once an adult, Giguere's aptitude for business was quickly put to test when a family friend gave him a challenging project: a chain of struggling old-school arcades. After negotiating closing deals for the arcades, Giguere's talent as a businessman showed. Soon, he began working managing a chain of retail butcher shops.

With successful endeavors under his belt, Giguere continued to work on management projects in southern Maine while connecting his business with family and friends, strengthening his ties to the area. Giguere grew up in Waterville, so it is only fitting that two of his largest projects are in town. For the past thirty years, Giguere has owned both Silver Street Tavern and Champions Fitness Club, also known by many as "Champs."

Recently, Giguere undertook a proj-

ect of overhauling and transforming the space above the tavern in the historic brick building situated on the corner of Main and Silver streets. Built in 1877, this building has seen many uses, including serving as the meeting space for the Independent Order of Oddfellows.

When the opportunity for developing the upper floors of the building arose, Giguere trusted his experience and aptitude for developing real estate that he had been developing his whole life, and made the quick decision transform the space into offices and apartments.

Extensive renovations uncovered beautiful living space. Seventy tons of debris had accumulated over years of neglect on the upper floors of the Silver Street building. Ornate historical elements could shine as the place turned into luxury apartments.

This past fall, Champions Fitness Club (which Giguere has owned for 30 years) underwent major renovations as he transitioned from owning the business to managing it. With tennis and racquetball courts, an extensive weight room, ample aerobic activity space, and on-site physical therapists, Champs is one of the largest recreation centers in central Maine.

From supermarkets to apartments, Giguere has owned and managed a diverse portfolio of properties. This power to diversify shows in his alternate use for space inside the Champions Fitness building. Until September, the space above the gym lit up at night, becoming Champions nightclub. Giguere's businesses serve the people of Waterville in many different ways, bringing food, entertainment, exercise and living space.

When business owners know their patrons like Giguere does—bidding hello to gym regulars and restaurant customers—a little bit of classic downtown feel like the vibrant one Giguere remembers growing up in is breathed back into Waterville. The Giguere family has certainly given huge contributions to the area, and the businesses Charlie Giguere has established continue to provide valuable services to the people of Waterville.

Student summoned for allegedly fleeing scene of car accident

By CHRISTINA DONG
Asst. Local News Editor

The Waterville Police Department issued a court summons last month to John Woodside '17 after he allegedly fled the scene of a single-car accident on Rice Rips Road. Darpan Roychowdhury '17 was a passenger in the car, but faces no charges. Neither student was seriously injured in the accident.

Shortly after midnight on Nov. 15, Woodside was driving north on Washington Street and lost control of the vehicle due to excessive speed while making a left turn onto Rice Rips Road. As Woodside rounded the curve, the Ford SUV went into a "critical skid," according to police reports, crashing through the guardrail on the left side of the road and into the woods. The vehicle came to a stop upon hitting a tree.

Woodside and Roychowdhury were able to exit the vehicle after the accident, and walked away from the scene of the crash without notifying the police department. The two were identified the following morning, according to police reports, and Woodside was charged with "failure to report [the] accident by [the] quickest means." If convicted, he could face up to six months in jail and a fine of up to \$1,000. Woodside and Roychowdhury declined to comment on the incident.

The accident occurred off campus, but within earshot, shortly

before the I-95 overpass as the vehicle was headed away from the College. "Someone called the [security] office [because they] heard the crash," Director of Security Peter Chenevert said. Associate Director of Security Jeff Coombs responded and located the scene of the accident, calling the police after finding the totaled vehicle.

Fire and rescue squads inspected the crash and searched the vicinity for over an hour before determining that the vehicle occupants had fled the scene. They also reported blood on the vehicle, which Wa-

terville Police Sergeant Brian Gardiner believes to be from either Woodside or Roychowdhury cutting a hand on glass after the accident.

In most cases, when students face charges from the Waterville police for off-campus incidents, both Security and the Office of the Dean of Students receive notification. "If police deal with our students off campus, they notify me... just to give me a heads up," Chenevert said. Security will then automatically notify the Dean's office.

Even if security remains entire-

ly uninvolved in an off-campus incident, all police charges appear in the Morning Sentinel. "It comes back to the school one way or another," Chenevert said.

Page 20 of the Colby Student Handbook reads that the College "does not police students' personal lives" on or off campus. "When we become aware" of an off-campus infraction, "we do the same thing we would do on campus," Dean of Students Paul Johnston said. The course of action depends entirely on the incident, and Johnston would first consider if the student has violated College expectations and how the incident relates to the student's role as a responsible member of the campus community.

In some cases, he will call the student in for a meeting, and "based on that conversation, we would decide if we were going to impose [sanctions] or hold the student accountable," Johnston said.

For legal charges, alcohol-related or otherwise, if a student is "charged with something that would be a violation of the code of conduct that we expect from our students, we'd absolutely take action," Johnston said.

Johnston was unable to release information on how the College plans to respond to this incident.

The vehicle came to a stop upon hitting a tree.

"Someone called the [security] office [because they] heard the crash"

Peter Chenevert
Director of Security

CVC, MMHS host homelessness awareness events

By DAGMAR DOUSMA
News Staff

The holiday season, which conjures images of warm homes and spending time with family, seems an appropriate time to ask the question: "What does home mean to you?" This month, the Colby Volunteer Center (CVC) and Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter (MMHS) are using the time to raise awareness about homelessness by hosting events at the College.

The past week has been dedicated to several on-campus events from MMHS including a discussion, lecture, and a dinner with the shelter's program coordinator and executive director.

The MMHS has been in several locations over the past three decades. Founded by the Interfaith Council of Waterville, the MMHS saw its first guests in November 1990. A temporary location on Silver Street was soon abandoned for the modest, 18 bed home on Ticonic Street. 22 years later the shelter moved again, this time to its current location on 19 Colby Street. Interestingly enough, this location next to the Kennebec River is where the College campus used to be situated before it moved to Mayflower Hill.

There is a long history of cooperation between the shelter and the College. According to MMHS Executive Director Betty Palmer, student fundraisers saved the shelter from the brink of bankruptcy on more than one occasion. Students have also volunteered regularly at the shelter, helping out with food preparation, childcare, organizing birthday parties and more.

"We learn from both staff and guests each time we visit, and our goal is to make the lives of those who work and stay at the shelter a little bit easier," Clea Harrelson '16 said. Harrelson is a Student Program Leader with the CVC who vol-

unteers at the shelter, along with Courtney Klein '15 and Cara Goldfarb '17.

"Nobody wants to be homeless," MMHS Program Coordinator Sheila Bacon said during an on-campus discussion on Tuesday. "They are individuals who maybe have a bit more baggage than everybody else and don't have a place to stay."

According to Bacon, the shelter does more than just provide a roof and protection against the cold. The MMHS mission is to provide safe shelter, food, support services and an avenue towards self-sufficiency. Bacon said that guests are required to work towards self-sufficiency by taking classes that address topics like resume writing, job interviews and parenting. Furthermore, learning about budgeting, education and finding an apartment are all part of their stay. The MMHS follows up with guests for up to a year after their departure from the shelter.

Last year, the shelter received national recognition for having 96 percent of its guests maintaining their own homes one year after leaving, and 87 percent after three years.

At a lecture on homelessness on Thursday, Dec. 4, Palmer raised important issues surrounding homelessness. According to the 2013 Annual Homeless Assessment Report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the number of cases of homelessness in Maine have increased by 26 percent between 2012 and 2013 despite a nationwide drop.

A decrease in housing voucher availability, with a cut of 1000 vouchers last year and another 1000 this year, has made the reintegration of guests increasingly hard. "We have seen a 35 percent increase in families over two years," Palmer said. "Families are not the only victims; elderly and youth populations are also increasingly facing homelessness."

On the flip side, Palmer has a strong mentality of activism. "What if we become crusaders or advocates again?" she said, recounting stories of success that included a woman who got a housing voucher and a job just before having a child.

Meanwhile on the Hill, students are busy fundraising. The Pottery Club sponsored a sale with the proceeds going to the homeless shelter. According to Nancy Meader, who organized the event, the sale raised over five hundred dollars

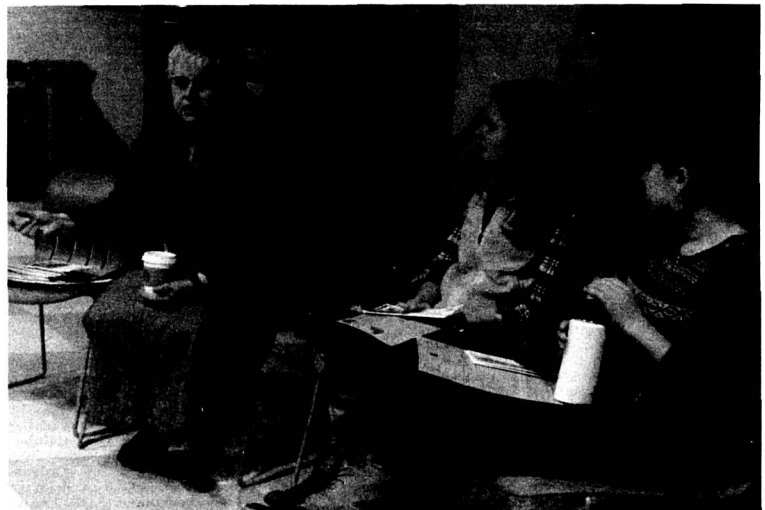
for the shelter.

The CVC student program leaders are excited, but for them fundraising is only one part of working at the MMHS. They characterize their most important accomplishments as some of the ones most difficult to quantify, like "that moment when someone starts humming because they hear a song they like playing in the kitchen, or when a child smiles, simply because you sat down next to them to draw."

"Our most important accomplish-

ments come when we make real connections with people who are part of the shelter community and are able to take what lessons we learn from the shelter and apply them in our lives at Colby," an email stated, jointly signed by Harrelson, Klein and Goldfarb.

In the spring, Harrelson, Klein and Goldfarb hope to fill open volunteer shifts at the MMHS and to organize events for volunteers to reflect on their experiences.



MMHS Program Coordinator Sheila Bacon discusses homelessness with students and community members in the Pub Center on Dec. 2

(Courtesy of Dagmar Dousma)

Fireside Chats Installment II: Semester Reflections

QUESTIONS AND TRANSPosed BY
CARLI JAFF
Features Editor

Beginning on October 30, 2014, the *Echo* started releasing a monthly installment featuring an interview with President David A. Greene. Each interview will cover a particular topic or issue related to the Colby community. Fireside Chats is aimed at keeping the Colby community, both on and off campus, informed about President Greene's ideas for the future of the College, as well as to provide a line of communication between *Echo* readers and the Administration. The editorial staff of the *Echo* welcomes any topics, issues, or concerns that the Colby community may want President Greene to address. To send suggestions, e-mail incumbent Features Editor Simone Leung at sleung@colby.edu.

Echo: In general, how would you reflect on your first semester at Colby?
President Greene: Let me start with a couple of surprises first. The first surprise for me has been that the community has a much more powerful presence than I had imagined. It has warmth and openness and a collegiality that is unusual... It's such an incredible asset... that people have a love and admiration for this place... It's hardly a perfect community... but I would say that of all the places I've been, this one has a special feeling to it... A second

reflection on this semester is that I came in believing that Colby was an extraordinary place, and one that was poised to be even better.

I would say after having been here now for five months, that this is even truer than I originally thought. It is a wonderful place, and there continues to be phenomenal potential at this institution... Every time I look around and I think all we can do to make Colby better, it's just very exciting to me. On the frustrating side, I would say that it's hard to move as fast as I would like on areas of improving Colby, and the biggest challenge I think is that we tend to be very lean in our staffing across Colby. Everybody is working as hard as they can right now, so asking people to take on more... is very difficult because there's not enough room in the day for them to be able to do that... And if it's something we're going to have to work on.

E: What are some specific things that you might have wished that you had gotten to that you didn't? How might you go about accomplishing them next semester?

PG: There are two things that are on my mind: one is that I'd like to structure a way for us to think together as a community about what's important to us... and I was thinking that might be through the development of a Colby Community Counsel, a place where we could have really tough conversations about who we are, what we care about, what we want to become... We

could have a group of people who are really committed to these issues... And we haven't done that yet, and I'd like to move forward with something along those lines. The second thing that's been on my mind is how we approach issues related to diversity in our community in the most broad-based ways, and I think that that piece really needs some work and thought. It's so essential, in my view, to who we are and the kind of learning environment that we create... and we have a lot of room for improvement in these areas, and this is an area where we haven't made enough progress yet, but I want to make more progress next semester.

E: Do you have any other plans that you can share going forward?
PG: I'm very excited about what we're doing in terms of looking at our performing arts facilities, and thinking about how we can have fantastic facilities for Colby in that area. I think that [these additions are] much needed and it will add to our academic programs and our community life in rich ways. I'm also eager to look at our athletic and fitness facilities and how those can serve the Colby community and the broader community I hope, as well. I was just having a conversation about the nature of our relationship with civic engagement activities and how we would think about Colby connecting into the community in even richer ways than it does right now, and there's a lot of good things happening already... It would benefit

Colby and the community and the individuals in the community in different ways. And finally, I think there's some really exciting opportunities for us to partner with institutions in Maine and other spots around the world that would benefit our programs and provide opportunities for our students and faculty that would be unusual and enriching.

E: Do you have any thoughts about the progress that you, the administration and/or the community has made on dorm damage, alcohol culture, or bias incidents?
PG: I've actually been pleased to see that the reported numbers on these incidents have been down this semester, which I think is a very good sign. I think that's largely due to the fact that students have taken it upon themselves to address this issue, and there's no better way to do it. Having students take this on and think about what kind of community they want to live in and how they should be have toward one another and toward the community in which they live is, to me, a great sign... I find that very encouraging... There's more that we need to do, but I would say that it's moving in a positive direction. The more that students own this and own this sense of place, then the better off we'll be.

E: Do you have any thoughts or reflections on the new committees on campus that you've created?

PG: What I'm trying to do is really open up our decision-making and engage people in the future of the College. There

are so many smart and interesting people in the community, and the more that we can hear from people... the better decisions we'll make. So these committees are really designed to... engage staff and students in a very meaningful way about their own work and where the College is going... I'm confident that if we do that well, we'll make much better decisions and the College will benefit from it. I'm excited about those. It takes a lot of work for these committees to work effectively, but we have a lot to do get ourselves prepared to make sure they function well... I think these are a good step in the right direction, but now we have to focus on how to make these committees really empowered and do important work.

E: If our readers were going to take one thing away from this Fireside Chat, what would you want it to be?
PG: The one thing I would want people to take away is that we're all in this together. And that's really the powerful part of this community: is that everybody owns a piece of this community, and our ability to work together and to be able to imagine together what Colby can become is the most effective way for us to move forward on things... The more we can open up on conversation and engage with one another around difficult issues, the better off we'll be as a community and the better off Colby will be in the long run, so I'm hoping that in some small way, this will all be a small step in that direction.

Yaks create campus uproar



Yak Yak can cause panic. But it can also be a funny way to pass the time. (Courtesy of Wikipedia)

BY CARLI JAFF
Features Editor

Over the past two weeks, the Colby community became concerned with an event that occurred in the East Quad dormitory. While there is some ambiguity surrounding the details, many members of the community began to hear about a drug deal, HIV-and-gonorrhea-positive condoms found in the bathroom and the hallways and other serious events that caused the police and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to make an appearance.

Once the *Echo* caught wind of such news, we spoke with both the Deputy Chief at the Waterville Police Department, Charles Runsey, and the Director of Colby Security, Peter Chenevert. Both sources stated that they have no report on record of any incident occurring in or around East Quad during the time period in question. This was a surprise to the editorial staff, and forced us to go back to the drawing board.

After much conversation about where we heard about the incident, the editorial staff found a common denominator: the social media app Yik Yak.

The recent Yik Yak feeds have been

dominated by conversations about what allegedly occurred in East. Posts varied from topics such as, "To clear everything up about East: Someone put many used condoms everywhere with the intention of infecting people with his/hers disease, HIV, and Ghoneres [sic], which is why police had to come," to "Stop asking about East we are not allowed to tell anyone, and the administration made that very clear to us."

The staff soon realized that users of Yik Yak could have created this rumor out of nothing, although posts from this week such as "The F*ck is the DEA in East right now..." continue to cause speculation about whether or not an event occurred. For now, lack of official evidence tells us that no incident took place, but the many posts on Yik Yak highlight the power of social media to create panic and widespread speculation on a small campus such as this one.

While the past few weeks have seen a large amount of hysteria due to Yik Yak, one cannot discredit the social media app for providing an entertaining way to procrastinate from the stress of finals week. As one Yaker cleverly acknowledged, "My yakma [sic] points at are [sic] 1984. I think it's a sign that I need to read Orwell for my exam and stop yaking [sic]."

Professors diversify teaching mediums

BY SIMONE LEUNG
Asst. Features Editor

As Colby students get flooded with finals during this time of the semester, some professors are making an effort to integrate alternatives, and in the case of Visiting Assistant Professor of English James Kantor, "change up the exam rhythm."

In Kantor's English seminar course, EN397B: Capitalism, Crisis, and Romanticism, students had a spoken midterm, which "provided" an opportunity to think through a specific problem or literary paradox that intrigued them," said Kantor. He added that students had "an opportunity to put [themselves] in the role of a scholar-theorist: they present an argument that has been grounded in some research, and do it in a little bit more formal a setting than the classroom discussion."

Oral assessments complement the material of the course, which focuses on the "intersections of British Romantic literature and the rise of the commercial society in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries."

"[They] hearken back to the old discipline of oration—something for which 19th century British politicians were especially famous, but that seems to have been replaced these days by asynchronous types of communication like texting, emailing, etc. Of course, this is not a knock on my students—they're wonderful communicators in person!"

"The spoken midterm seeks to restore a kind of lost art in pedagogy: oratory, which is not just about presenting imaginative ideas connected to previous discussions, but also about the order, form, and organization of those ideas," Kantor continued.

Kantor provides his students with a template, which should be used to guide their midterm discussion, since "it can be challenging to talk through a complicated literary problem in an orderly way," said Kantor. "This, I think, presents a bit of challenge: Unlike playing a certain form in a jazz chart, or running a passing route in a football game, we're not used to modeling our speech on a given template (not consciously, anyway—some scholars of linguistics might argue that there is always an implicit template in speech). But I think the advantages are numerous: students get a chance to assume the role of the teacher, shape what might be diffuse points they had in discussion into an organic whole, and they get to finish the whole thing in

about 30 minutes," Kantor added.

In terms of students' reactions to oral assessments in his course, Kantor said that he hadn't polled them on it, "but I think they liked it... It's also a shorter experience, although there may be more pressure because of its length. But, other than stressing the form of a good spoken argument, I try to keep it as natural and conversational as possible. I will certainly use spoken assessment in other classes—especially upper-level classes where students are about to enter the job market (and enjoy multiple rounds of interviews), or enter grad school."

Oral assessments are also essential to foreign language courses, "where the goal... is development of oral and aural skills as well as reading and writing," said Ziskind Professor of East Asian Studies Kimberly Besio in an email correspondence. In her Chinese courses, Besio uses a combination of essays, written exams, and oral presentations to assess her students. "I would imagine that in the future most [students] will use [their] spoken Chinese much more often than [their] written Chinese so I feel that it is important to work on oral presentation and aural comprehension as well as writing and reading... Presentations push you to incorporate the patterns you are learning into a larger communicative context. If you are not pushed to utilize new patterns to express your own ideas you will never make them your own," she said.

In terms of grading oral assessments, Besio has developed an effective grading process. "For me it has been somewhat a long process to figure out how to grade oral assignments fairly. When I first incorporated oral assignments into the class I tried to grade them on the fly and felt that such a method was very inadequate, then I started having them taped so that I could watch them several times each time focusing on different aspects of the presentation. Ultimately though, I think the most useful (for the student) is the step that I added last year—that is to have each student come in and watch the tape with me so that we can discuss the ways you could have improved the presentation... I think using oral assessment as part of the grade is actually fairer as some people are more oral than others; thus everyone can be assessed on both their strengths and weaknesses," she said.

Assistant Professor of Spanish Brett White also incorporates oral assessments in her courses, where lower-level Spanish courses are more focused on grammar

and vocabulary, while higher-level courses are more focused on debate and communicating coherent thoughts.

For many professors, oral assessments complement the written coursework. "We speak every day in class. This is just a more formal extension of what students are always already doing. Also, we have designed a practical and comprehensive focus for their oral assessment. First, students write a letter of application to study abroad in a country/program of their choosing—this is an in-class composition," White said.

Next, students give presentations to a selection committee (comprised of their peers) for that study abroad program. In the presentations they describe their strengths as candidates and they narrate an event in their past that has shaped them as a person. The selection committee asks questions of the candidates. Finally, the students do one-on-one interviews with the program director (the professor) to discuss their application and their plans for the future," White continued.

In foreign language courses, oral assessments cause students to develop a deeper level of understanding of the language. "I think a presentational oral test requires a student to fully know what he or she is expressing in a complete way... In Spanish 126 (Elementary Spanish II) the presentation material stems from personal experience, so the material is well known to the speaker, so he or she can concentrate on the oral expression of that experience, which is often the primary challenge of this type of exercise at the beginning language level. In a conversational oral test, maintaining the thread of a conversation is examined. This involves many different skills, including listening comprehension, interpreting gestures and expressions, and responding accurately and appropriately in a timely way. I think my students recognize that it is challenging and possibly intimidating to speak in front of the class, alone, but we spend almost all of our class time speaking, so they are more prepared than they realize, I think," said White.

Professors who incorporate oral assessments are requiring their students to be "just as convincing in person as they are on paper," said Kantor. "We also shouldn't forget the emphasis on spoken performance in graduate and post-professional education, which many Colby students pursue. Comprehensive exams, dissertation defenses, and mock litigation all require some sort of verbal acuity."

Letter from the Editors:

Over the past two weeks, the *Echo* has received some pointed feedback in regards to our handling of the car accident that occurred less than a mile off campus on Rice Rips Road. As a staff, we have discussed these critiques at great length and it goes without saying that it has been a period of deep reflection for us collectively as journalists, particularly in how we judge our news and how we present it. In addition, this community discourse has also prompted us to discuss the larger topic of communication as both a paper and as a college.

In terms of the community at large, communication continues to be a major factor in both the seen and unseen aspects of operation here at Colby. In relation to this particular issue, we've pinpointed a few instances in which our tone, content and methods play an enormous role in how that these events unfold.

We've been covering the Library discussions for two semesters now, and have seen as a community just how much both the method and content of communication matters. This week, we also covered a story regarding a conversation between two professors and student members of the Library Committee. Though several of the parties felt that the interaction was innocuous enough, others felt that the professors were interfering in students' ability to voice their own opinions. This is just one example that demonstrates the complexity of interactions between all members of our community but also how important it is to have thoughtful dialogue and reflect on the effects of that dialogue.

In addition, we also covered stories this week regarding Yik Yak spreading news of unprovable crimes, the role of oral presentations and academic discourse, the sharing of the experience of homelessness, and documentary film projects on the stories of Maine farmers. This edition of the *Echo* happens to function twofold: it is both a medium for communicating news but also an exploration of the many ways that people communicate and why.

The *Echo* staff inhabits a unique position in that we, as a collective body, actively engage with all facets of campus, call stories and dig deep into what makes this campus tick. We are a representation of what goes on here and who this community is. Your continued investment and communication with us is greatly appreciated, and moving forward, we would like to use this paper not just as a forum to spark discourse, but also to foster the constructive conversations that make this campus thrive.

Enjoy winter break. We'll see you in the spring.

-The Editorial Staff of The Colby Echo

The Colby Echo

Published by the students of Colby College since 1877

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I didn't do it for you, I did it for me

I started taking the hijab when I first began high school. No one forced me to adopt it. My sisters don't cover their heads, and, in fact, my extended family despised me for a period of time for trying to be "too Muslim" and not fashionable. Needless to say, I defied them. Since a very young age, I have been encouraged by my parents to make my own decisions and also face their consequences. So I did.

When I sat down to write this column, I thought about how the meaning of hijab has changed for me over the ten years I have adorned it. Initially, it was out of pure convenience. I could just take it and not worry about bad hair days. It was a period in my life where you had to look pretty, and I had the privilege to just opt out of that. In later years, as I started developing my own identity, it became increasingly important to me that people pay attention to my ideas, not my face. I wanted to make something of myself and the hijab was perfect. I could dictate my position as I wanted. Damn, it felt powerful. I went to Norway for my last years of high school to attend one of the fifteen United World Colleges. In those teenage years, I wanted to defy everything: all the stereotypes that society projected on me—that saw me as a weak, oppressed Muslim woman. I wanted to rebel against all of that. I wanted to prove to myself that I could be a leader, that

I could make decisions, talk to men, navigate the world we live in, and be respected as an individual. At UWG, I was enabled to take advantage of real opportunities. My identity was not limited to a scarf-wearing poster child for all the Muslims in the world—I was a person.

A natural question after reading all of this is: why change all of that now? For two years at Colby College, I have tried to reconcile the many sides of my identity. As a freshman, I worked to build the Multi-faith Council because I saw interfaith dialogue to be paramount in understanding the world around us. I furthered my own understanding of Islam and Muslim women by taking relevant courses. I talked to as many people as I could, explaining to them what the hijab is and what it is not. I worked with Sodexo to get Halal and Kosher food on campus simply because I considered it imperative that students feel supported, nurtured, and at home. I also felt there was a need for more student representation from the Muslim world, so I talked to admissions to pay attention to that aspect when selecting students.

Of course, all of this has taken a toll on me. I don't want to be a poster child for the 1.3 billion Muslims around the world. This is not what I signed up for when I came to Colby College.

I did not sign up for being

told, "Go back to Saudi Arabia" during my first week of being here. This summer, I decided that my own relationship with God was worth more than discussing the political ideology of the hijab or educating people for something they could simply search for on Google. It was worth more than convincing some women that I am not oppressed. It was worth more than being randomly screened at airports. It was worth more than being stared at in Walmart. In the words of James Baldwin, nothing around me was built for me, so I decided I was worthy of rising above all of that. I am worthy and I have decided to put my foot down.

Having said all of this, what do I want from you? I want you to understand that the hijab is an experience: it exists on the inside as well as on the outside. Now that my outward hijab is gone, people approach me a lot more. Boys tell me how much they like this change. I don't need this validation from you. I also don't want you to touch my hair or twirl me around like a little girl.

For me there is no difference in the Sarah then and the Sarah now. I am the same; the binary exists in your head. I want you to blur that binary. You have not liberated me. You have not saved me. I want you to understand that. Do not pity me. Instead, open your mind. Push yourself to learn. Read outside of the mainstream media, be critical thinkers. I want to see that you tried, that you are not apathetic. Don't fail me, Colby.



Sarah Asif

The folly of the Feb Frosh program

Let's talk about Feb Frosh. Ah yes, those notorious students who arrive in January; however, we call them Feb Frosh because alliteration is paramount.

I was one of those souls deemed capable to excel in that unique first-year situation. The First Semester Abroad (FSA) program places upwards of 40 incoming students in one of two language intensive and cultural programs in Dijon, France or Salamanca, Spain.

Since 1985, the FSA program has been surprising students by forcing them to travel halfway across the world to go to their often top choice school. I have a love-hate relationship with my first semester abroad experience, leaning toward the hate.

I work in Donor Relations for the College and through my job, I work closely with the President's Office. It just so happened that one day when delivering documents atop Mt. Eustis, I struck up a conversation with President Greene and the conversation eventually led to my opinions of Colby and my experiences here on the Hill and in Dijon. When I was asked about the future of the FSA program, I quickly responded that the program was an eye opening experience that Colby should continue. This question: "Would you keep the program around?" got me really thinking about my time as an honorary Frenchman. President Greene, I'm sorry to say that after much thought, I misspoke. I do not believe that the FSA program is suitable for Colby.

FSA programs have become the hot new thing for colleges to do. Schools like Northeastern, Hamilton, Michigan State and many others have instituted similar FSA programs. Colby was one of the first schools to implement this program. It originally began as a cultural experience that was an

option for those adventurous and brave students who desired something other than the traditional first semester at college. Now, FSA is an admission's driven program, meant to boost enrollment numbers. The program is not optional and draws students off the waiting list and out of normal admissions pools. The Feb Frosh, when admitted, are issued an ultimatum: go to Europe or don't come to Colby at all. This second sentence of our admission acceptance letters sets the tone for how Colby will treat their Feb Frosh for the remainder of our freshman year.

Most of my issues with the FSA program stem from the selection process. As I briefly mentioned earlier, Colby utilizes the Feb Frosh to boost enrollment, in essence, to admit extra people to the school in a hope that they will come. However, with each student Colby admits to the FSA program, they are gambling, and often lose. The College selects students they "feel will excel during the abroad experience." When talking to other Feb Frosh, I discovered a common trend of what Admissions looks for in FSA candidates. The majority of Feb Frosh admitted out of general admissions pools, and not from the wait list, discussed study abroad in supplemental essays, had their language teachers write their recommendations and discussed their willingness to experience new things. Although these characteristics may mean that these candidates may "excel" while abroad, it does not mean that those students will be able to excel coming back to Colby, a semester late. The freshman experience here at Colby is unique, the school does an excellent job easing first years in through things like COOT; however, the school forgets that 40 some odd students will have to return in January.

These students receive a pathetic excuse for COOT—Iced COOT—which is meant to help us branch out, but the majority of people on our trip have already spent four months together abroad. The LINK program, designed to help us meet other students, attempts to reintegrate us, but its feeble attempts consist solely of parties, disappointingly with other Feb Frosh. The second semester club fair consists of about three clubs tabling in Pulver, a month after the FSA students arrive. The college ignores us, why are we different than any other student? Why are we labeled as Feb Frosh for the remainder of our time?

Feb Frosh are left to find their way around Colby and many of us do, but often some students struggle to find that separate niche. This struggle results in FSA students having astronomically high transfer rates. The average freshman retention rate at Colby is about 96 percent, meaning about 4 percent of students who originally come to Colby, transfer after their first year. Of the 33 Class of 2017 Feb Frosh, 12 percent of the group transferred. That number is far too high for a program that claims to be life changing and will be the best memory of your time at this school.

To speak frankly, those four first months were the shittiest thing I have ever done here at Colby. It did change my life. I met great people, and I saw amazing things, however I chose Colby for Colby. Not for a Colby apartment on Rue Barbès. I was mad at Colby when I came back. They had stolen time away from me, time that I can never get back. I almost transferred last year because of it; something about the Admission's office's arrogance and cockiness that everyone will always love Colby no matter their situation is offputting. I know I am not the only Feb Frosh who feels this way. Something needs to change.



Kiernan Somers

Students explore local food in original documentaries

By SAM LeBLANC
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Imagine: you spend a day on a boat, in a cabin or in a field, chatting with a farmer and learning about their life and livelihood. You film everything you see, compile your footage into a documentary film and get to screen that film at a local cinema. This is exactly what students in Visiting Instructor of Cinema Studies Erin Murphy's class did for their culminating project in "Documentary Video Production: An Editor's Perspective."

The 15 student projects, collectively called "Maine Food" on the advertising posters, will be part a compilation of videos that students created in Assistant Professor of Global Studies Maple Razsa's senior seminar course on Culture, and the Political Imagination on Maine food production. Murphy described Razsa's students' website as an "interactive documentary— a website where the viewer can kind of explore what stories they're interested in."

In addition to being part of an online collection, the students' videos were screened on Tuesday Dec. 9 at Railroad Cinema where they were open to the public.

Palmer Taylor '17 was excited to see his documentary about a beef and pork farmer in Jackson, ME on the big screen: "I go to Railroad all the time, so it [was] exciting to see something that I made be up on that screen. Big multimillion dollar movies [play there] and now this movie that I made that's budget is like 20 dollars [was] on that screen too.... [We can] watch our movies like they were meant to be watched."

Taylor's project tells the story of Graham Mallory who owns Pastures of Plenty with Emily Stone. Taylor explained, "My film

focuses mostly on [Mallory's] sustainable agriculture practices....The second big part of it has to do with his economic situation right now. [Mallory] was leasing land for a really long time, and he only just bought his own land a few years ago.... [Mallory is] building a house, he cleared the land, his wife is pregnant.... It's kind of a tough time. He has a lot of different things happening at once. He's trying to find a way to make [the farm] sustainable environmentally and economically."

Taylor said that Mallory and his wife planned to attend the screening and that "I'm looking forward to see how he and his wife like it... but I'm kind of horrified that [they] won't like it because that would be my worst nightmare."

Jackson Hall '17 created a documentary on "the Bangs Island Mussel company, an aquaculture company in Portland, ME," he explained. "This guy farms mussels in Casco Bay. Much like Mallory of Pastures of Plenty, Hall explained that Matthew Moretti, one of the farmers of Bangs Island Mussels, is "introspective about his work and why he's mussel farming. He definitely understands the importance of the bigger picture and the environment in what he's doing."

Hall said that telling Moretti and the company's story "seemed like a really cool concept and really different.... I got to be on this barge and film for several hours." In addition to the opportunity to film out on the ocean, Hall said that the class as whole was an amazing opportunity: "It's the first production class that Colby has ever offered.... [The College bought] \$200,000 worth of camera equipment just for this class. It was an awesome opportunity to be a part of the first, [and] hopefully the start of Colby's blossoming cinema studies [department],

particularly the production [side of cinema]."

Leah Breen '17 created a documentary about "Ben Rooney who runs Wild Folk Farm in Benton outside of Fairfield. He graduated in 2012 and was a bio major here [at the College]." Breen said, "I was really drawn to [Rooney's story] because one of the goals is to make the farm an intentional agrarian community. Ben is focused on going outside, separating yourself from governing powers, living outside the system, being self-sufficient, but wanting a community."

Beyond her interest in Rooney's project, Breen said that the course has introduced her to

some of the skills necessary to tell other people's stories. Last JanPlan, Breen worked for "a civic media organization called Video Volunteers. They worked to empower citizens through film.... [Video Volunteers] give them cameras to film issues within their communities.... I saw the power of film and... wanted to engage with this really powerful tool. If you know how to use a camera it can be applied in some many different ways."

Murphy said that she wanted her students to create projects on a single theme because the projects are all so closely related: "If they're coming from a position where they know a little bit about

Maine food, they're better able to give more informed feedback," Murphy said.

Beyond the classroom benefits of having students work on the same project, Murphy said that the assignment was meant to get students in to the community, including Waterville and beyond. Having seen all of the films, Murphy said "there's all these themes that come together. I didn't expect that at all but it makes sense that that would happen. A lot of it is the struggle of having a farm, but some of them are just portraits of the day in the life. It's diverse."

The class's videos will be available to view on <http://web.colby.edu/mainefood> in January.



Murphy's students get up close and personal with the work of local farmers and entrepreneurs.

Courtesy of Palmer Taylor

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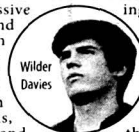
A Little Bit Wilder

In defense of Colby's greatest asset

I think it's interesting how people can get used to and forget about impressive things when they spend so much time with them in close proximity. Some of my friends back home in Colorado have never even been to the mountains, let alone gone skiing, and my friend who I stayed with over Thanksgiving in New York found it funny how excited I got about the fact that she lives a block away from the street where the Macy's Thanksgiving day parade occurs. Somehow being close to something diminishes one's perception of its value. I mention this idea because I have realized that much of the student body here at Colby doesn't appreciate the importance of our museum.

I have been working the front desk of the museum since my first day at Colby. Being behind that desk, I have been able to observe what kinds of people come in, as well as see how students engage with the space.

The most astounding thing I have learned is that students almost never come in of their own volition, and many have a warped misconceptions about what the museum is like. Friends are always surprised when I tell them that almost all of our visitors are not from Colby, and, excluding all the winter months, the museum will get around 150 visitors on a regular day. Last year *The Boston Globe* profiled the new addition of the Lunder pavilion,



Wilder Davies

and we had several people from all around New England driving up to see the collection. With that addition, our museum has become a well-respected institution, and is seen as one of the best college art museums in the country. Yet even with all of this attention and high praise, students still barely ever come in.

Now, I understand that not everybody is interested in art. Certainly as an art history major, I see a greater overall value in the museum than others, but students often dismiss it entirely and undervalue its worth. I have heard many students say that if we sold a couple of paintings, we would have enough money to fund other "more useful" things on campus. Not only is this proposition entirely unfeasible, the idea that we even have the right to sell the art is problematic, because this art doesn't belong to us, it belongs to all the people in the surrounding area who see it as a valuable and free educational resource. To have a museum of this caliber right in the middle of an eco-

nomically stagnant town such as Waterville is a rare and wonderful thing. Local families and elementary school classes come in all the time, and always make sure to let us know how incredible and important the museum is for their kids. Viewing art is generally only available to those who can afford it or those who live in more metropolitan areas, so many of these kids probably

wouldn't be able to go to a museum otherwise. To sell our art would mean taking resources away from our larger community, and that is a selfish and arrogant idea.

I implore students to come in every once in a while, just to see all the beautiful and spectacular pieces we have. If you really want to make the most of it, come in once every semester, after the art has been rotated. Our collection is so massive that only

a fraction can be on display at one time, and you will get to see new works after every rotation. For those who truly don't care for art, that is totally fine—but understand that our museum is one of Colby's greatest assets in connecting with the community, and it is not ours to sell.

"To have a museum of this caliber right in the middle of an economically stagnant town... is a wonderful thing."

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From the Archives: December 3, 1930

WHY NOT COLBY?

This bit of logical reasoning was found in the Tufts Weekly. We might go just a step, or two, further and claim that our own Mules are the nation's best footballers. Why not? For didn't Bowdoin defeat the "champion" Jumbos? And didn't old Joe Colby beat Bowdoin? Quod Erat Demonstratum, Colby had the best football team in the East this year.

"A process of reasoning has been developed by Tufts football enthusiasts which, if the fallacies be overlooked, leads to the conclusion that Tufts has a better team than Notre Dame. Here is another and a less pretentious argument:

"Yale defeated Princeton and tied Army and Dartmouth; Harvard beat Yale; Holy Cross trounced Harvard and was defeated by Brown; New Hampshire conquered Brown; Tufts defeated New Hampshire. Conclusion, Tufts has the best team in the east."

Women's hockey building up speed going into break



The women's hockey team has been steadily improving over the course of the early season, working to a 4-4 record heading into the holiday break. Courtesy of Dalton Safford.

By KIERAN SOMERS
Asst. Sports Editor

Colby hockey has a storied history, however success on the ice in recent years has eluded struggling Mule teams. After a coaching change last year, the Mules are led by Mallory Michaela '05 who had spent eight years with the program prior to taking the helm. Under Michaela, the Mules are tracking in the right direction, upsetting Amherst to make the NESCAC Semifinal and finishing 10-14-2 last year. After a rocky start in November, the Mules switched on and won four in a row to climb to 4-4.

The Mules began their season in Vermont with a two game series against perennial NESCAC powerhouse Middlebury. This was the first time in four years that Colby would be without record-holding netminder Brienne Wheeler '14, and the nerves came through. With three goalies competing for the starting job, Michaela pinpointed Jessica Thulin '18 as the early favorite. The Mules fell 7-1 to the Panthers with the only goal coming off of a strike in the third from Nikki Donato '17. The Mules fell behind early, conceding a powerplay goal just 1:31 into the game. The Panthers were ranked fourth nationally and their experience on the ice showed.

Solid team play led the Panthers to a 2-0 victory the following day over the Mules. Colby again dug themselves a hole early on when a tripping penalty from freshman Sasha Fritts led to another early powerplay goal. The Mules

recovered and were able keep the Panthers close after an impressive 25-save performance from Thulin in her collegiate debut.

Colby next played the traditional home-and-home series against Bowdoin, dropping both games by scores of 6-1 and 1-0 respectively. At home, the Mules hung with the Polar Bears until the third period. In the final frame, Bowdoin opened the floodgates, scoring four unanswered goals in the final 15 minutes of the match. Delaney Flynn '17 netted her second of the season on a powerplay for Colby's lone goal.

In the midst of a goalie controversy, the Mules travelled down to Brunswick for the second half of the series. The Mules came back empty-handed, but had an incredible performance from junior netminder Angelica Crites. In a battle of goaltenders in which both had over 30 saves, Crites stood on her head, stopping 38 shots. The Polar Bears captured the win after a powerplay goal halfway through the final frame.

Desperate for a win, the Mules battled back to capture a come-from-behind victory against the Huskies of the University of Southern Maine. Colby scored the last three goals, blanking the Huskies in the final 30 minutes of the game to win 3-2. Colby had a notable performance from freshman Bella Papapetros, who earned her first two collegiate points with a goal and an assist.

Colby then battled it-out in Boston against the 14th-ranked UMass-Boston Beacons. A powerplay goal from co-captain Jackie

Tavella '15 led the Mules to their first victory of the season. The victory proved critical to the Mules' season helping Colby gather momentum while simultaneously sending the Beacons into a five game winless drought. Colby returned to Thulin in the net again and she proved invaluable, making 31 stops, 15 of which were in the third period.

Colby then returned to Waterville for a weekend home series that featured wins over St. Anselm and Plymouth State. Versus St. Anselm, a late goal from Kailey Buxbaum '17 lifted the Mules over the visiting Hawks. The game also solidified Thulin's role as the starting netminder for the Mules as she recorded a career-high 38 saves, 17 of which were in the final ten minutes of the game. Colby also had a goal from Fritts who, despite her status as a rookie, has evolved into an enforcer for the Mules, leading the team with 8 penalties. Against the Plymouth State Panthers, the Mules brought all their pieces together to win in dominant fashion, 9-1. Colby came out guns blazing, scoring their first five goals in the opening ten minutes. Colby had two multi-goal performances, one from Breanna Davis '16 and another from Katie McLaughlin '17.

The Mules hold a lot of momentum entering the holiday break and will not play again until the new year when they match up against the University of New England. Colby will then look to add to their momentum and expand upon their four game win streak as they enter the bulk of their NESCAC schedule.

A Weekend in the Premier League

By WILL LEVESQUE
Staff Writer

It was not long ago that the "Big Four" dominated English football. Manchester United, Chelsea, Arsenal, and Liverpool, four clubs that practically monopolized the top of the Premier League table. However, in the last few seasons their dominance been shown to be vulnerable, a fact reaffirmed by the results of this weekend.

Saturday's matches began with an early upset, as seventh place Newcastle ended first place Chelsea's unbeaten run of 23 games in dramatic fashion. After a first half that included close misses by both sides, Newcastle striker Pappe Cisse tapped in the ball after Chelsea defender Cahill failed to intercept a cross in the 57th minute. With the score 1-0 in favor of Newcastle, Cisse would strike again in the 78th minute to make it 2-0. The match was far from over, however, as Newcastle defender Steven Taylor was shown a second yellow for a bad foul and dismissed with 10 minutes left in the regular time. Chelsea capitalized on their numerical advantage, setting up Didier Drogba to score in the 82nd minute. Chelsea's efforts would not prove enough, as the match ended 2-0 in Newcastle's favor, Chelsea's first loss of the season.

Saturday continued on as Hull played out a largely dull 0-0 draw at home against West Brom, a result that broke West Brom's four-game losing streak. The majority of the excitement took place early in the game, with Hull keeper Allan McGregor saving a ninth-minute penalty. From that point on, neither side was able to break the deadlock. Liverpool played out a similar result at home with Sunderland: neither side found the goal before time expired. Despite late protests by Liverpool for a penalty as a result of an alleged foul on Raheem Sterling, the referee was unmoved and the match ended without a goal.

In a bottom of the table showdown, QPR beat Burnley 2-0 at home. With both sides sitting in the relegation zone, the match was a must-win, but only QPR were able to produce a result. Guided by second half goals from Leroy Fer and Charlie Austin, QPR were able to hold on for the win, despite a late red card for Austin. The result leaves QPR sitting just above the relegation zone in 17th place, whereas Burnley's first defeat in five games puts them in 19th place.

Saturday featured yet another upset for a member of the old "big four," as Stoke overcame Arsenal 3-2 in a thrilling affair. Only 19 seconds after a thrilling off, Stoke striker Peter Crouch aimed a right-footed shot low into the Arsenal net, making it 1-0. With two more first-half goals from Stoke midfielders Bojan and Walters, Arsenal found themselves

in a halftime crisis. Despite showing a distinct lack of an attacking edge in the first half, the Gunners found their form in the 70th minute, with two goals in four minutes. Santi Cazorla scored a penalty just before Aaron Ramsey fired in to make it 3-2. Arsenal's possible comeback was soon stifled by the dismissal of defender Calum Chambers in the 78th minute, damaging Arsenal's resurgent attack and ensuring the match ended at 3-2 in Stoke's favor.

Unfortunately, Saturday's next match could not live up to the morning's excitement, as Tottenham and Crystal Palace played out another 0-0 draw at White Hart Lane. The score line did not reflect Palace's form, however, as the away side hit the bar and displayed a vast improvement over their style in the previous weeks.

Saturday's final match occurred at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, with City overcoming Everton in a heated 1-0 encounter marked with controversial refereeing decisions. Man City found the net with a questionable penalty in the 24th minute to net the only goal of the game. The controversy continued, as City escaped with only yellow cards for two blatant high-footed challenges before escaping with a no-call for what should have been a penalty. Despite City's luck, the victory came at a cost, as striker and lead scorer Sergio Aguero came off in the seventh minute with a knee injury.

Sunday's matches began with a 3-1 West Ham win over Swansea, continuing their fine form that has rightfully earned them third place in the table. Despite an early goal from Swansea striker Wilfried Bony, the Hammers found the net late in the first half, putting the match at 1-1 heading into the break. The second half was even more exciting, as West Ham's Andy Carroll and Diafra Sakho both scored, with Swansea keeper Lukasz Fabianski being shown a controversial straight red for a what seemed to be incidental contact with a West Ham player. The result, however, affirms West Ham's third place in the table and leaves Swansea in 8th.

The final match of the weekend would end 2-1 with Aston Villa beating Leicester City for their second home win of the season. In addition to first half goals from both sides, and a decisive second half strike from Villa's Alan Hutton, the match featured yet another red card, which seemed to be the theme of the weekend. After colliding during a challenge, Leicester midfielder Paul Konchesky squared up with Hutton, an action that would earn him a dismissal. The winning result for Villa moved them to 11th in the table.

With the weekend's matches over, all eyes now look to Monday's encounter between 5th place Manchester United and 4th place Southampton, an affair that will play key role in deciding this year's Champion's League places.

All people by nature desire to know - Aristotle



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Women's Basketball vs. Alma

Sat, Dec. 28 12 pm Waterville, ME

Men's Basketball at Babson

Wed, Dec. 31 1 pm Wellesley, MA

Men's Hockey at Norwich

Fri., Jan. 2 7 pm Northfield, VT